Planting Sites:

Tree Easements

by John Van Ells DNR Southeast Region

tree easement is a right or privilege to plant and maintain a tree on the land of another. In a community, tree easements are normally used where the right-of-way easement is too narrow for placement of a tree, where overhead utility lines limit space or for beautification. The purpose of obtaining tree easements is to provide adequate rooting and growing space for street trees. Easements aren't for everyone, but they have a place in some tree planting programs.

If you choose to use tree easements, you must decide who will retain ownership and responsibility for the trees - the community or the landowner. Either approach can be successful. Most who use tree easements obtain permission from the property owner, even when going through the process of obtaining a legal easement. It's the politically correct thing to do.

With property typically changing hands every seven to ten years, each tree could have a dozen different owners during its lifetime. This turnover can present a problem if you're the type who gets excited when a tree is removed by a new property owner. Mark Freberg with the city of Green Bay says, "We get so few of these trees being removed by property owners that we don't get upset about it." Like most of the communities that plant on easements, Green Bay believes that losing a tree here and there is acceptable compared to all the trees that are successfully planted.

Not all trees planted behind sidewalks are in easements. Mary Morgan of the city of Superior said, "We



Hammond Ave. in Superior. The 100' right-of-way (50' from street center) allows public trees to be planted between the houses and the sidewalk without an easement.

haven't planted trees on private property but have planted trees in back of the sidewalk, which gives the impression of the trees being planted on private property" (see photo). This special circumstance came about where the city had a 100' right-of-way, with only a few feet between the sidewalk and curb, and 15 feet of right-of-way from the sidewalk to the adjacent property boundary. In this case, the right place to plant trees was on the right-of-way between the sidewalk and property line to give them adequate room to grow, away from the harsh curbside environment.

It appears there is no single best way to accomplish public tree planting on private property. Different communities do what works best for them, given local circumstances. Regardless of the approach chosen,

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Sorry for the Delay

No, you haven't been dropped from the mailing list. For a variety of reasons we got behind in producing *Wisconsin Urban & Community Forests*. This "summer" issue will be followed shortly by the fall issue and then we should be back on track. Sorry for the inconvenience. - *Managing Editor, Dick Rideout*.



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Summer 1998



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Community Profile:

Tree City USA: Since 1993 Tree City Growth **Award:** 1997 Population: 7,000 Street Tree Population: 4,000 Street Miles: 40 Number of Parks: 14 Total Park Acreage: 270 **Developed Park**

Acreage: 130 **Primary Industries:** Hillshire Farms Curwood

> Titan Steel King

Program Profile: Staff:

Wayne Toltzman, mayor Jeff Nehila, park & recreation director John Hass, parks supervisor

Tree Board:

Dick Bechard, chair Ross Kading Tom King Bridget Kurth Brian Pelot

Annual Operating **Budget - Parks** Division: \$222,000



City New London

by Jeff Nehila New London Park & Recreation Director - and -Tracy Salisbury DNR Northeast Region

"Living on the edge" of the Fox Valley, the city of New London takes pride in its urban forestry program. From planting boulevard trees to seedling giveaways by the city's utility division, the citizens of New London take a proactive approach in maintaining and replenishing their community tree population.

With 14 parks and public places, New London places a great deal of emphasis on the importance of trees. Case in point: In 1983 a consultant was hired to complete a street tree and planting space inventory. The results of the inventory were eye-opening. Seventy-six percent of the tree population consisted of maples and 79 percent of the trees inventoried were in fair or better condition. This report led to a concerted effort to diversify species and improve the general health of New London's community forest.

With the goals of diversifying and filling vacant planting spaces, the public works department has spearheaded a boulevard and terrace tree planting program. Public Works Director, Chris Zoppa, personally identifies planting sites for new trees. Chris then contacts a local nursery and orders the right tree for the right place. This program has increased the terrace tree inventory by 400. With over 40 miles of streets, one can imagine the importance of these terrace trees and the beauty they add to New London's residential areas.

The city's utility division is a strong proponent of the tree program. In 1996, the division gave away over 1,100 trees to city residents. The trees were given out to utility customers, along with tree planting guides that were provided by a local nursery. Another strong supporter of the city's tree program is the local Rotary club. Each year, the club donates time and money to do a spring tree planting in one of the city's parks and public places. The club values this contribution so much, they have done it for the last 20 years.

Most of all, it's New London's park and recreation department which deserves the credit for their success story with trees. The department is very active in maintaining and improving the tree population, by administering the 1) DNR urban forestry grant, 2) Tree City USA program, 3) Arbor Day celebrations; and 4) tree board.



Photo by New London Chamber of Commerce

New London's park system is extensive with 14 parks totaling 270 acres, with only half of that acreage developed. A significant amount of the undeveloped acreage is covered with trees. Recently, over 700 seedlings were planted in the presently undeveloped New London Nature Area. A talented and dedicated park department provides expert tree maintenance. From flowering crabs along the river walks, to majestic arborvitae in the walled Hatten Park, the department stays very busy with its tree program. Their efforts have helped New London achieve Tree City USA status for the last five years, as well as the Growth Award in 1997.

1998 was also a banner year for the tree program in New London. In addition to planting 700 seedlings in its nature area, New London has planted another 100 seedlings in a recently acquired 18-acre parcel. High school students have planted seedlings in Hatten Park, and the 5th grade classes have assisted in both planting the nature park seedlings and larger trees in

continued on next page



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Project Profile:

Urban Forestry ReZOOvenation

by David Stephenson DNR South Central Region

Community tree managers are confronted with many issues in caring for trees. They must manage to prevent tree damage and vandalism, maximize safety and generally increase the benefits community trees provide. Zoo environments have the same requirements, but their unique characteristics offer some distinctive challenges. Recently, the Dane County Henry Vilas Zoo took stock of these issues and developed a comprehensive plan to manage their vegetative resource.

Background

The Henry Vilas Zoo was created in 1911 on land donated by Colonel and Mrs. William Vilas, in memory of their son, Henry. Today, nearly 700 animals live here, and more than 700,000 people visit each year to check them out. One of four accredited zoos in the state, it is one of only about a dozen in the country that is admission free. It is managed by Dane County with financial assistance from the city of Madison. The Henry Vilas Zoological Society is the



The vegetation at the entrance to the Children's Zoo helps frame the promenade and separates different areas of the zoo. Most of these trees are managed as street trees.

zoo's fundraising organization for animal purchases and animal exhibit construction with the city/county.

In 1989, UW-Madison landscape architecture student Joe Wood developed a set of vegetation goals for the zoo as a senior thesis. These goals formed the foundation for the management recommendations. One primary goal called for using vegetation to establish a sense of immersion in each animal's native biome or habitat. While needing to be hardy to the Midwest, plants are chosen to imitate the texture, structure and form of the plants indigenous to the habitat of the animals. For instance, honeylocusts are used extensively in the "African" areas to mimic the native acacia trees. A visitor to the zoo has a sense of traveling from a Wisconsin woodland/savanna/ grassland, to a tropical savanna, to the grasslands of the western US as they move from exhibits of north-

continued on page 4





New London continued from page 2

Pfeifer Park. The tree board, which was established in 1993, has completed tree selections for specific areas throughout the city. Great emphasis is put on planting the right tree in the right place. The tree board has also produced their own tree pruning video, which is aired on the city's government access television station.

What does the future hold for New London's urban forest? Park and Recreation Director, Jeff Nehila, says, "The city desires to hire a consultant to do a complete tree inventory of the city. The information derived from the inventory will facilitate the city's decision making processes and be an impetus to develop a comprehensive urban forestry management plan."

New London's city slogan, "Reflecting the Pride," says it all. The citizens are proud of their community forest, and are committed to maintaining and enhancing it for future generations to enjoy.

Tree City Applications Due

Are you interested in having your community certified as a Tree City USA? If so, now's the time to act. Contact your regional urban forestry coordinator (see p.16) for an application packet. They can assist you through the certification process. The deadline for new applications or recertification is December 31, 1998.

To become a Tree City USA your community must meet the following four standards. You must have:

- 1. a board, commission or department charged with management of public trees
- 2. an ordinance that codifies community tree management policy
- 3. a community tree budget of at least \$2 per capita, which can include volunteer time or donations
- 4. an Arbor Day observance and official proclamation (This can happen any time, not just on Arbor Day.)

There are currently 117 Tree Cities in Wisconsin, ranking it 5th in the nation for tree management programs! If you think your community qualifies, contact your DNR regional urban forestry coordinator today.

Project Profile continued from page 3

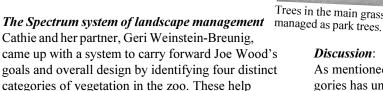
central US wildlife, to the big cats, elephants and giraffes of the tropics, and on to the bison and antelope of the western prairies.

Other goals include maximizing the functionality of the vegetation - such as increasing safety while minimizing visual barriers, and providing shade for

visitors and animals - and selecting durable plant materials to lower maintenance costs. Vegetation should also be used to create identifiable spaces within the zoo, defining exhibits as well as visitor spaces (for resting, picnics, promenades, etc.).

In 1997, Cathie Bruner, of Midwest Land & Culture, Inc., completed an inventory of all plants in the zoo and developed a management plan. In putting together the plan, she looked at four major areas: the role of the landscape at the zoo; the visitor experience of the zoo as a

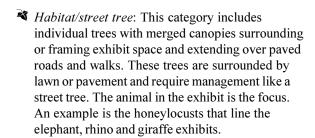
natural area; increasing cost effectiveness and efficiency; and increasing the long-term health of the zoo's urban forest.



determine the role that the landscape plays as contextual support and enhancement of the animal exhibits. Each of these categories serves a unique function and has its own set of management needs and concerns. The categories of the Spectrum system are:

- **⋄** Background: This category encompasses distant views, layered and merged vegetation, and buffer zones around the zoo. The animal in the exhibit is the focus. An example is vegetation that is behind an exhibit, serving as a green backdrop.
- Background/habitat: These are merged groups of vegetation in exhibits, grouped tree canopies, and trees perceived not as

individuals but as a background and context. The animal in the exhibit is the focus. Examples are trees growing within an exhibit or between a fence and the exhibit.



Street tree/park tree: These trees are managed as individuals within the lawn or pavement. Here, park land is the visitor amenity and trees are the focal point. The space between the trees provides clarity, the sense of scattered trees (savanna) provides ambiance. An example of this category is the trees that are within the central lawn area for picnicking, resting, etc.

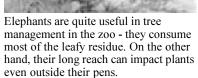
Trees in the main grassy area are the predominant focus and are

Discussion:

As mentioned, each of the above vegetation categories has unique management requirements. Much of the background vegetation consists of native plants as well as "weedy" exotics. Rather than spend a lot of time and dollars trying to purge the exotics, these are being kept to provide a broad, green, wildlooking backdrop. Where these plants merge with the foreground, control is exercised to prevent their spread into the more intensively managed areas. Since many of these plants overhang exhibits, there is a danger of trees falling into the exhibits, potentially injuring animals or, perhaps of greater concern, serving as an escape route for animals out of the exhibits. To reduce this possibility, an annual inspection will be made to detect and eliminate any hazards from vegetation.

The background/habitat category has some very unique management needs. First, as above, there is danger of a tree falling and injuring an animal, or landing on a fence and providing an escape route. Continual evaluation of these plants will greatly reduce this possibility. Second, the trees often need to be protected from the animals themselves. Soil compaction, feeding on leaves and bark, and rubbing of antlers on trunks are all serious problems. The zoo has developed some creative ways to prevent this. In exhibits with split-hoofed animals (deer, giraffes, etc.),







Examples of the background and background/habitat vegetation categories can be seen in the tiger exhibit.

by David Stephenson, WDNR

large riprap rocks are laid out around the trees. This makes for treacherous walking, effectively keeping the animals away. Zoo supervisor Jeff Stafford notes that the rocks need to be 10 to 15 feet out around the tree, depending on the animal. In the bison pen, wood fences of large timbers keep them at bay. In the tiger exhibit, hot wire attached to natural looking rustcolored rebar "shrubs" provides an incentive to stay away from the live trees within. "The zebras are perhaps the most difficult," notes Stafford, "as they are less afraid of walking on the rocks. In this exhibit we've had to resort to wrapping the tree trunks with PVC pipe."

The final two categories - habitat/street tree and street tree/park tree - are managed much the same. Where trees come close to the exhibits, care must be taken to ensure the safety of the animals from the trees, and vice versa. For instance, some animals, such as the giraffes and elephants, have a long reach and can munch on trees outside their exhibit area. The trees in these two categories are managed primarily as individuals. Attention is paid to clearance, good structure, elimination of risk, diversity and overall health. These trees receive the greatest attention and care because of their proximity to the visitors.

Results:

"The predominant management problem the inventory identified was lack of pruning," explained Bruner. "Because of the information the report provided, the zoo immediately began to tackle this issue. Last year, Dane County Parks Forester, Fred Paasch, along with parks department staff, helped prune hundreds of smaller trees in the zoo. An arboriculture firm was also hired to prune many of the larger trees in the public areas."

Additionally, tree selections for the various exhibits were evaluated, and revised lists were developed. Tree protection measures were also looked at and recommendations were made for improving their functionality and aesthetics. Problems such as a high incidence of basal abnormalities and cankers were reviewed, and changes were made to tree planting specifications, including planting depth, size of

planting area, proximity to pavement, use of weed whips and lawnmowers, and tree selection.

"The inventory, plan and accompanying report are really helpful," notes Stafford. "The inventory identified all the plants in the zoo, helping zoo staff learn more about them. Additionally, it listed specific management actions necessary for each part of the zoo. We were able to take the plan to the county and city and demonstrate the need to manage the trees within the zoo, something that heretofore consisted mostly of removals. We are now starting to budget for annual tree care and are planning for the integration of existing and new trees as current exhibits are updated and new exhibits are built. The Spectrum system enables us to differentiate between the management needs in different areas of the zoo and utilize our limited monetary and human resources more efficiently."

"Despite some of the problems peculiar to a zoo, there are also distinct advantages," Jeff continued. "Brush disposal, for instance, is not a big problem. We give it to the elephants and they eat it. Some of the larger branches and trunks can also be used in various exhibits. In the future, we would like to begin educational interpretation of the vegetation, both as it exists in the zoo and in the habitats where the animals naturally live."

"The trees really make the zoo," Jeff concluded. "Without them, there would be no sense of space, no perspective on the animals' native habitats. They are absolutely essential to make the zoo experience successful. As the trees provide

the contextual support for the animals in the zoo, this plan provides us a context for managing the trees. When you hear an excited child tell their friends to come over to the 'jungle' to see the macaws, spider monkeys and wallabies, you don't have to go any farther to recognize the critical role the trees play at the zoo."

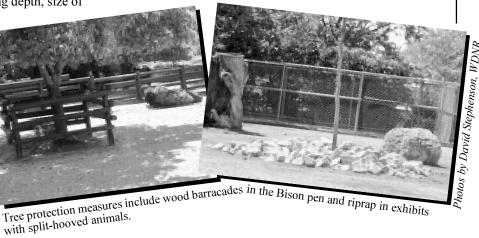


Midwest Land & Culture, 1997. Henry Vilas Zoo Urban Forest Inventory and Management Plan. Dane County Henry Vilas Zoo, Madison, WI.

This project was funded in part by a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Grant.



Zoo supervisor Jeff Stafford and consultant Cathie Bruner check out a tree problem.





Community Tree Profile: Mountainash - (Sorbus spp.) (European, American and showy)

by Don Kissinger DNR West Central Region

Native To: Of about 80 species distributed throughout the Northern Hemisphere, four are found primarily in northeastern Canada and the United States. They are also commonplace in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Appalachian Mountain region. They prosper in hardiness zones 2-3, and gradually decline south of zone 5. This plant, which likes rock outcrops and cool bog areas, is considered a small tree or large shrub, although the largest one in the US is 62' tall, growing in West Virginia.

Mature Height*: 20 - 35' (can grow taller)

Spread*: 20-30'

Form: Spreading, rounded crown with age; typically branches low to the ground.

Growth Rate*: Slow-medium

Foliage: Alternate; pinnately compound; 11-17 leaflets, which may be 2-4" in length, lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate in shape and finely toothed. Fall Color: Yellow, orange to maroon.

Flowers: Fragrant, appearing in late May to early June on new growth; positioned at the end of twigs in broad white clusters about 4" across; quite showy.

Fruit: Appears annually in clusters 4 -5" wide, orange to red in color; each berry-like pome is approximately 1/4" or larger. Fruits appear in mid-August

and persist through October, when they are eaten by song birds, waterfowl and mammals.

Bark: Thin and smooth; light gray-brown on American mountainash, yellowishorange and bronze on showy mountainash; conspicuous horizontal lenticels; bark becomes slightly scaly with

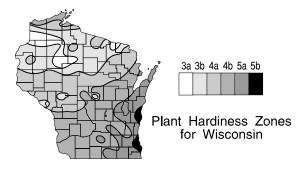
Site Requirements: Grows in almost any soil type; can handle a fairly moist site, but not good in dry conditions; prefers medium pH, full sun and cool climates.

Hardiness Zone: 2-5

Insect & Disease Problems: Similar to fruit tree problems - benefit from similar management programs. Fire blight and scab are definite issues of concern. Borers and sawflies hit this tree readily. Sawflies typically defoliate the leaves starting in mid-June, leaving just the petiole and midrib.



Mountainash has showy white spring flowers (left) and brilliant fall clusters of fruit (right) that persist into winter.



*Urban tree size and growth rate vary considerably and are strongly controlled by site conditions.

Suggested Applications: Works well in parkland situations, wide medians, entrances to parks, museums, office buildings or as a centerpiece in home landscapes.

Limitations: The tree is weak wooded and tends to develop multiple leaders, leaving it prone to ice breakage. The thin bark is sensitive to sapsuckers, misguided lawn mowers and weed whips. It is shallow rooted and short lived.

Comments: Young trees transplant easily. Its many unique features such as bark, leaf shape, flowers and fruit make it inviting to plant in ornamental settings. A good seed crop occurs annually, so it is a good tree for wildlife viewing. Due to its relatively short life span (25 - 50 years), plus insect and disease concerns, it should not be heavily planted. Even though the name implies it, mountainash is not a member of the true ash (Fraxinus) genus.





young mountainash

The "Golden Canker" of Pagoda Dogwood

by Glen R. Stanosz, Ph.D. UW-Madison Depts. of Plant Pathology and Forest Ecology and Management

Sometimes, when a particular woody plant increases in favor and becomes more common in the landscape, diseases of that host also increasingly attract our attention. In the last few years, I have been asked more and more often to examine dead and dying pagoda dogwood branches that exhibit a bright yellow to orange color. Initially puzzling, these symptoms and accompanying fungal fruiting bodies have become familiar indicators of a disease that appears to be growing in importance, the "golden canker" of pagoda dogwood.

Pagoda dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*) can offer several desirable features when planted as a land-scape tree. This small tree is hardy from Alabama and Georgia north to New Brunswick and Minnesota (zone 3). Dark green leaves (red in fall) are borne on reddish-green to purple, alternate twigs. Horizontal tiers of branches provide the interesting, layered or "pagoda" effect that suggested the common name of the tree. Small, white or cream-colored flowers produce dark blue, berry-like fruits borne on bright red stalks for consumption by wildlife.

Twig blight, twig dieback and canker development causing death of branches are attributed to the pathogen *Cryptodiaporthe corni*, and this fungus may be responsible for premature death of trees. The most conspicuous symptom of this disease is a striking and bright yellow to orange discoloration of twigs. Development of this golden color precedes

Mountainash continued from page 6

Common Cultivars: 'Blackhawk' - This is a European mountainash cultivar which has a strong columnar tree form and orange fruit.

'Cardinal Royal' - Another European mountainash that has a symmetrical upright habit and red fruit; needs good drainage.

'Oak Leaf' - A cross between European and Swedish mountainash. Has an upright branching habit with oval shape; leaves look like English oak.

(Special thanks for information provided by Darrell Kromm, Reeseville Ridge Nursery; Kris Bachtell, Morton Arboretum; Mike Yanny, Johnson's Nursery; and Ed Hasselkus, Professor Emeritus, UW-Madison.)

production of fungal signs in the dead stem tissue. Eventually, bright orange pycnidia (small, flask-shaped asexual fruiting structures that can be recognized with a hand lens) are produced on dead twigs. Perithecia (sexual fruiting structures) are sometimes found on larger branches and tree trunks. Confirmation of *Cryptodiaporthe corni* as the causal agent can be obtained by sending an appropriate specimen for examination at the UW-Madison Plant Pathogen Detection Clinic.

The golden canker pathogen occurs throughout the range of pagoda dogwood in the United States. Specimens of golden canker, or reports of its occurrence, have been received at UW-Madison from southeastern Wisconsin to the north central region of the state. The host range of *Cryptodiaporthe corni*, however, appears to be limited to *Cornus alternifolia*.

Because the disease has not been studied, opportunities for management can be suggested only by knowledge of the general patterns of canker disease development. Nursery stock should be carefully inspected to ensure that diseased plants are not moved into the landscape. The requirement of pagoda dogwood for a moist but well-drained, acid soil and the experience that this plant does best in cooler climates should be kept in mind when considering species selection and the planting site. Canker pathogens often enter plants through wounds, so care should be taken to avoid injury to twigs and stems, and pruning should be done during dry

continued on page 9

What Damaged this Tree?

by Kim Sebastian DNR Southeast Region



Turn to page 15 to find out...

oto by Kim Sebastian, WDNR



Tree Easements continued from page 1

the most successful tree easements have a plain and simple agreement and are only as large as needed. The wider the easement, the greater the likelihood of conflicts with new property owners, since landscaping perspectives can vary widely from person to person.

Privately Owned Trees

Greening Milwaukee, a nonprofit organization that works with the city of Milwaukee, has an adopt-a-tree program where trees are planted on private property with the permission of the landowner. To participate in the program one must: 1) reside and own property within the city of Milwaukee; 2) own space to support a large tree - i.e., approximately 20 feet from any foundation, overhead wires, competing trees or property lines; and 3) attend a community tree training class prior to the planting day.

Participants in the program agree to the following:

- provide adequate water for the new tree
- ♦ keep mulch around its roots
- keep lawnmowers and trimmers away from the trunk
- prune out broken and dead branches
- educate friends and neighbors about the benefits of trees

In Tacoma, Washington, where the right-of-way is not large enough to plant, they give away appropriate trees for homeowners to adopt and plant. From 1992 to 1996, the city has given homeowners over 5,000 trees to plant in their front yards. The city does not maintain or retain ownership to these trees. Free trees sounds like a pretty good deal!

Trees Atlanta, a private nonprofit organization, plants larger caliper street trees downtown, primarily on private property. Rather than an easement, property owners sign a contract granting permission to plant trees (usually in beds around the perimeter of surface parking lots). The property owners retain all rights, including the right to cut if conditions change in the future. However, there is a parking lot ordinance in effect that requires owners to have one tree for every eight parking spaces, providing incentive for retaining

the trees. The reason for using a contract instead of an easement is that it's faster, easier and cheaper than planting in a city sidewalk, which would require expensive tree grates. The large number of surface parking lots in the downtown area provide ample opportunity, and the landscape ordinance provides leverage to deal with private property owners.

The city of Indianapolis occasionally plants on private property off the right-of-way. They try to avoid private property planting except where needed for corridor beautification and where right-of-way is insufficient. Their legal department drew up a "right of entry permit" that each property owner has to sign to allow temporary access for the planting. After the trees are planted, the city has no further responsibility or liability for them. On occasion, the city works with the community development corporation (CDC) that rehabilitates properties it owns. During the development period, assistance in tree planting is provided before the rehabbed units are sold. Because the CDC is a quasi-government organization, a right of entry permit is not needed.

City Owned Trees

Green Bay and Marinette use the same process to obtain a 10-foot-wide legal and binding tree easement with a willing landowner. The cities have perpetual easements for planting, and sole authority to maintain the trees. In return, the landowner has the right to utilize and enjoy the easement area and the tree, without the responsibility for maintenance. Of course, there is a way to get out of the agreement through consent of both parties, or by the city expressly abandoning the tree in place.

Spokane, Washington, uses a very general "sidewalk easement" to deal with tree sidewalk conflicts. It is used primarily to reroute sidewalks around trees onto private property where the right-of-way is too small to support trees. They use a fill-in-the-blank form to specify whatever is appropriate for the situation. They really believe in keeping it simple!

The borough of Roseto, Pennsylvania, a cute little town, wanted to participate in a municipal tree restoration project with their utility and Penn State. However, due to street widening and such, they had

Upcoming Events

November 13, 1998 - Wisconsin Arborist Assn. Fall Seminar, Marriott Middleton, Middleton, WI. Contact: Dave Stephenson, 608-275-3227.

January 13-14, 1999 - *Wood Waste Utilization National Conference*, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Contact the National Arbor Day Foundation, 402-474-5655.

January 20-22, 1999 - Financing the Urban Forest National Conference, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Contact the National Arbor Day Foundation, 402-474-5655.



virtually no right-of-way left. Using a triplicate form, each cooperating property owner signs that they will allow the tree and promise not take it down. Nearly seven years later, of the 50 trees planted, one tree was taken down for development and two were moved to another residence.

The heavily industrialized borough of Marcus Hook, New York, ran out of streets with enough right-of-way to plant trees on. So, they started looking at the nice lawn spaces of the omnipresent row

houses. They have a form written up by their attorney to allow planting trees on private property. Their borough manager states the agreement has no legal weight and is unenforceable, but the borough feels that trees are important enough, so they go ahead and plant anyway.

And then there is Massachusetts general law (Chapter 87, Section 7), which states: "Towns may appropriate money to be expended by the tree warden in planting shade trees in the public ways, or, if he deems it expedient, upon adjoining land, at a distance not exceeding twenty feet from said public ways, for the purpose of improving, protecting, shading, or ornamenting the same; provided, that the written consent of the owner of such adjoining land shall first be obtained." There is no formal easement given by the landowner - they need only give permission to plant.

The one thread common to all of the tree easement programs is that they feel trees are so important they will put forth the extra effort to get more trees planted. They look at planting trees on easements as a boon to their program, not a hindrance. Easements are one more way to get the right tree in the right place.



Ironwood planted about 1972 in Green Bay. Easements were used on the right side of the street to avoid utility line conflicts.

Deadlines and Datelines

- **November 23, 1998 Deadline for nominations for the 1999 Wisconsin Urban Forestry

 Awards presented by the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council. For more information see the article on page 14 or contact your regional urban forestry coordinator (see p.16).
- December 31, 1998 Deadline for submitting 1998 Tree City USA and Growth Award applications. For more information contact your regional urban forestry coordinator (see p.16).

"Golden Canker" continued from page 7

weather when conditions are less conducive to infection. All colonized portions of twigs and branches should be removed by making proper pruning cuts on the green side of the margin between healthy and diseased tissue. Mulching and watering, when needed to avoid drought stress, may help to prevent the disease or decrease its severity and extend the useful life of an affected tree.

Events, cont.

January 24-26, 1999 - *Wisconsin Urban Forestry Conference/WAA Annual Conference and Trade Show*; Marriott Middleton, Middleton, WI. Contact: Dave Stephenson, 608-275-3227.

February 2-4, 1999 - *Trees and Utilities National Conference*, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Contact the National Arbor Day Foundation, 402-474-5655.

March 28-30, 1999 - Building With Trees National Conference, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Contact the National Arbor Day Foundation, 402-474-5655.

If there is a meeting, conference, workshop or other event you would like listed here, please contact Dick Rideout at (608) 267-0843 with the information.



Asian Long-horned Beetle

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Taken from a fact sheet and press release produced by the Wisconsin Dept of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

he Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) has recently been found in three Chicago neighborhoods, bringing widespread public attention and media interest. You may receive calls from the public. To help you respond to these calls, here are some answers to common questions. In addition, further information is available from experts listed at the end of the article.

Q. Where did the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB) come from?

A. The Asian long-horned beetle is native to China, Japan and Korea. It has arrived in the United States on wooden packing crates carrying merchandise form China. As trade with China continues to grow, this is likely to be a continuing problem.

Q. What are the ALB's identifying markings?

A. The beetles are large-bodied, up to 1½" long, and their antennae may be at least that long. They are shiny jet-black with white spots and their antennae have very distinctive alternating black and white segments. (see photo)

Q. What is the ALB's life cycle?

A. For egg laying, the female chews through the bark to the cambial region. She then lays one 5 - 7mm egg. Female beetles can lay about 25 to 40 eggs in their lifetime. In New York, adult female beetles were seen laying eggs from July to November. Eggs are typically first laid in the upper trunk and along the major branches. As the tree becomes more heavily infested, the females will lay their eggs along the entire trunk and on exposed roots.

Eggs hatch in one to two weeks. The larvae first feed in the cambial region. This early feeding results in "frothing" on the outside of the bark. Then the larvae enter the wood and tunnel upward for 10 to 30 centimeters through both sapwood and heartwood. A full-grown larvae can reach a length of 50mm. The larvae transform to pupae and then to adults inside the larval galleries. The adults then chew their way out of the tree and exit through 3/8"-diameter holes the following summer. Adults can fly several hundred meters and can live more than 40 days.

Q. What is the ALB's potential range in the US?

A. The ALB is considered a major pest in China throughout a wide range extending from 21°N



Side view of adult Asian long-horned beetle. The body of the adult beetle (excluding antenna) is about 1½ inches in length, and shiny black with small white markings on its wing coverings. The long antennae are banded in black and white.

to 43°N latitude. This band would span from southern Mexico to the Great Lakes in North America.

Q. What is the preferred habitat?

A. The beetle feeds and reproduces in healthy hardwood trees. In New York, it has attacked maple species and horsechestnuts. In Chicago, silver and Norway maples and boxelders are heavily infested. In its native Asia, it is found in elms, poplars, willows, mulberries and other trees.

Q. What other evidence of ALB may be present?

A. You may see round holes about 3/8" in diameter anywhere on the tree; darkened, oval to round wounds in the bark; and piles of coarse sawdust at the bases of trees or where branches meet the main stem.

Q. What insects may be confused with ALB?

A. Other species that resemble it are the whitespotted sawyer, southern pine sawyer, locust
borer and poplar borer. You can distinguish
these species from ALB by relative amounts, or
absence, of black and white on their bodies,
the arrangement of the spots and the distinctive black and white bands on the ALB's
antennae. We have also received a number of
calls from people who noticed holes in trees,
but they were caused by woodpeckers. In
several cases, the holes were in straight lines,
indicating that the yellow-bellied sapsucker
made them.

Q. What damage does ALB cause?

A. Female beetles chew out areas in the bark to lay eggs, making the oval wounds mentioned above. When the larvae hatch, they tunnel into the tree, feeding as they go. The tunnels destroy the tree's vascular system, killing the tree. After the larvae develop into adults, they exit, leaving behind large round holes.



Photo by J.E. Appleby, Univ. of Ill.

Q. What treatments or controls exist?

A. In its native Asia, the beetle prefers poplar and willow shoots over mature trees, so it is less damaging. Also, trees there have developed some resistance and several species of birds feed on the beetle. No such natural controls are known in the United States, where the insect has generally been found on mature trees. Insecticides are not effective because the beetle lives most of its life inside the tree. So far the only treatment has been to cut down the trees and burn the wood immediately.

Q. How does ALB spread?

A. Left undisturbed, adult Asian long-horned beetles are likely to remain on or near the tree they emerged from, so their natural spread would be quite slow. The greater danger is artificial spread by humans. Crates containing goods from China are shipped from ports into the interior United States, and from warehouses to retail businesses. The crates may be dumped in landfills after they are emptied. Wood from infested trees that are trimmed or cut down may carry the beetles to new locations. In Chicago, one infestation was discovered when a park employee, knowledgeable about insects, was hauling firewood from a tree cut down in a friend's yard and noticed an unfamiliar insect on the wood.

Q. Have we found any Asian long-horned beetles in Wisconsin?

A. The US Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) office in Wisconsin has been notified several times that shipments had come into the state from US companies that had received merchandise from China in wooden crates carrying ALB. The crates in Wisconsin had all been destroyed or landfilled, or did not appear to harbor ALB. An Asian long-horned beetle found three to four years ago in a warehouse was submitted, but there is no evidence of a reproducing population.

The ports of Milwaukee, Green Bay and Superior primarily receive commodities and raw materials, rather than finished goods, so the chance of the beetles arriving in crates at our ports is less than in Chicago or the East and West Coast ports. However, we do receive a great deal of merchandise that arrives at those ports and comes to Wisconsin overland. While AHPIS inspectors at the ports of entry try to examine wood crating, only a small percentage is thoroughly inspected.

Q. Where has ALB been found in the United States?

A. The beetle has been found in warehouses in California and South Carolina, but has not infested outdoor areas there. So far, the only infestations have been in Brooklyn, NY, Amityville, NY and in three Chicago-area neighborhoods, where infested trees will be removed this winter.

Q. What should we do if callers believe they have found ALB?

A. Ask them to describe the insect or damage they have found. If it is very different from the ALB's appearance or typical damage, you can generally reassure them that it is not this pest. If it could possibly be ALB, try to go to the location and collect a specimen. Do not identify it yourself. Contact JoAnn Cruise, USDA APHIS, 608-264-5112, for instructions.

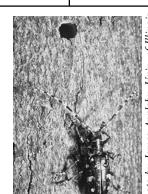
If ALB has been positively identified or is a possibility, landowners should not cut down the trees themselves. Tree removal should be done by state, city or federal officials through an organized program in late fall or winter. If the beetles are disturbed in the summer, they may move to other trees. Left undisturbed, they will remain in the infested tree until

Q. What about callers who are worried about receiving merchandise in wooden crates?

they die.

A. They should check for bark, boring holes and/or sawdust in or near the crates. If they find this evidence, they should contact the Wisconsin APHIS office at 608-264-5112.

Companies could require their exporters to fumigate all shipments or use alternate packaging.



Asian long-horned beetle and exit hole. Note that these holes are $\sim 3/8$ " in diameter.

Q. Where can callers get more information?

A. Callers with internet access can visit these sites:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/longhorn and http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/bbnpag.html and http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ildnr/offices/pubaffrs/asian.htm. They can also watch for updates in the Pest Survey Bulletin, available at the website for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/datcp/datcp/

You or your callers can also phone or e-mail:

Bill Brener, WDATCP, 608-224-4573, brenewd@wheel.datcp.state.wi.us
JoAnn Cruse, USDA APHIS, 608-264-5112, JoAnn.M.Cruse@usda.gov
Dave Hall, WDNR, 608-275-3275, halld@dnr.state.wi.us
Phil Pellitteri, UW Dept of Entomology, 608-262-6510, pellitte@plantpath.wisc.edu



Organization Profile:

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)



By Kim Sebastian DNR Southeast Region

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has an important mission. The department works for all people of Wisconsin to assure:

- the safety and quality of food
- consumer protection
- fair business practices for the buyer and the seller
- efficient use of agricultural resources in a quality environment
- healthy animals and plants
- the vitality of Wisconsin agriculture and commerce

DATCP is primarily a regulatory agency, although it also provides many non-regulatory services. In one way or another, DATCP's jurisdiction extends to nearly every business in the state. DATCP has broad authority to make rules that have the force of law. DATCP also licenses over 100,000 individuals and businesses. DATCP aims to listen well, communicate effectively and help consumers and businesses solve problems. But DATCP also has substantial enforcement authority, when necessary. The department may conduct hearings and investigations, perform inspections, issue subpoenas, collect and analyze samples, issue compliance orders, and suspend or revoke licenses. In cooperation with a local district attorney or the Department of Justice, DATCP may also prosecute law violations in court.

DATCP provides many services to the people of Wisconsin, including consumer and business information, complaint handling, lab testing, agricultural development and marketing services, farm assistance and more.

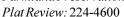
One of the many divisions of DATCP, the Division of Agriculture Resource Management (DARM), safeguards the use of agricultural resources including land, water and plants. The division's responsibilities are carried out by program specialists in Madison,

with nursery inspectors, agricultural engineers and technicians, and environmental investigators located throughout the state.

DARM groups its programs under headings of Land, Water, Plants, Animals and Insects, and Production. If you have questions or would like more information, call the programs directly. Note that all phone numbers are area code 608 in Madison.

Land

Agricultural Impact Statement: 224-4650 Farmland Preservation: 224-4632



Agricultural Shoreland Management: 224-4603



Groundwater: 224-4501

Drainage District Assistance: 224-4625

Nutrient Management: 224-4605 Watershed Planning: 224-4605

Plants

Biotechnology: Oversees the field trials of genetically engineered organisms and notifies the public about proposed field

trials, 224-4596.

Endangered Species: Works with landowners and pesticide users who are near the habitat of nationally endangered and threatened plants or animals to voluntarily develop a pesticide management plan to protect the species from pesticide injury, 224-4538.

Fertilizer, Lime, Soil and Plant Additives: Licenses manufacturers and distributors of fertilizers, lime, and soil and plant additives. Fertilizer products are inspected and tested for accurate labeling, 224-4541.

Ginseng: Licenses ginseng growers and dealers, certify ginseng stock, inspect ginseng gardens and monitor diseases and pests, 224-4594.

Nursery and Turf Inspection: Inspects and licenses nursery growers and certify nursery stock to prevent the spread of pests. Also inspects sod to assure it is healthy and free of pests and disease for shipping to other states, 224-4571.

Pest Survey Bulletin: This publication monitors pests that affect Wisconsin, including an extensive section on trees and ornamentals, so growers can



The Idea Exchange...

Compiled by John Van Ells DNR Southeast Region

"Forestry Friends" Tree Memorials

The *city of Menomonie* is hoping to begin filling over 1200 vacant planting spaces identified in its most recent tree inventory through a memorial tree planting program known as Menomonie Forestry Friends. Organized through the *GFWC-Menomonie Woman's Club* and supported by a 1998 Urban Forestry grant, the program seeks individual and corporate donations for tree planting in understocked city parks. A \$100 gift entitles the donor to choose one of ten different tree species for planting in one of four parks. *Info: Alta Vasey Morgan, 715-235-8154.*

Milwaukee Develops New Brochures

With the help of an urban forestry grant, *Milwaukee's Forestry Division* has again produced a series of urban forestry fact sheets to help instruct the public how to care for both their city and private

trees. These fact sheets have helped expand the forestry division's emphasis on education and training efforts in the community. In-house staff developed fact sheets on the following topics: Hazardous Trees vs. Nuisance Trees, Forestry Services and Plant Health Care.

The Plant Health Care brochure can be customized to include inserts on the following topics: honeylocust pod gall midge, carpenter ants, wind whip leaf drop, cytospora canker on spruce, white-marked tussock moth, ash leaf spot/leaf drop, anthracnose, eastern tent caterpillar and fall webworm, autumn leaves for mulch or compost, ash flower gall, apple scab, aphids, the cottonwood tree, iron and manganese chlorosis, birch leaf miner, maple petiole borer, leafhoppers, and bronze birch borer.

The fact sheets provide written, easy-to-understand guidelines for citizens to make a difference in the care and nurturing of Milwaukee's urban forest. The fact sheets are distributed through community and neighborhood groups, public schools and area businesses. *Info: Forestry office*, 414/286-3595.





Does your community or organization have an idea, project or information that may be beneficial to others? Please let your Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator know. We will print as many of these as we can.

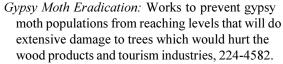
If you see ideas you like here, give the contact person a call. They may be able to help you in your urban forestry efforts.

DATCP continued from page 12

make better pest management decisions, 224-4586. *Phytosanitary Certificates:* When plants and plant products are shipped interstate or internationally, DARM certifies they are free of pests, 224-4572. *Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory:* The laboratory analyzes plant, soil and insect samples to identify and diagnose plant diseases, 266-7132. *Seed:* Assures that quality seed is sold in Wisconsin by monitoring and enforcing the labeling, germination and purity requirements, 224-4574.

Animals & Insects

Animal Waste: 224-4624 Apiary: 224-4575 Feed: 224-4539



Production

Agricultural Clean Sweep: Helps counties collect unwanted or unused pesticides and farm chemicals, 224-4545.

Containment and Remediation: Oversees proper storage and handling of large amounts of pesticides and fertilizers. Also provides technical assistance for cleaning up contamination caused by pesticides and fertilizers, and reimburses some costs associated with cleanups, 224-4523.

Investigation and Compliance: Responds to complaints related to feed, fertilizer, seed, lime and pesticide use. The investigators also inspect dealers, manufacturers and retail stores dealing in pesticide products, 224-4500.

Lawncare Registry: Homeowners and renters can find out about pesticide applications made to lawns, trees and shrubs on their block of residence or on adjacent blocks, 224-5296.

Licensing Pesticide Manufacturers and Pesticide Product Registration: Licenses all pesticide manufacturers and labelers and registers all pesticide products distributed in Wisconsin, 224-4536.

Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licensing: Certifies and licenses all private and commercial pesticide applicators, 224-4548.

Sustainable agriculture: 224-4620

Worker protection: Enforces this federal rule that protects employees on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouses from exposure to agricultural pesticides, 224-4539.

For additional information on DATCP, check out their web site at: http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/datcp

This information was compiled from the DARM Program Guide and the DATCP web site.



Council News: Council Studies its Future

by Roald Evensen, Chair Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council

The Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council held a two-day strategic planning retreat at Durward's Glen Conference and Retreat Center near Baraboo in July. Sixteen past and present members attended.

The group carefully examined the work of the council since its inception, with the goal of determining what past activities needed ongoing and/or expanded efforts, and what new initiatives might deserve consideration.

It was agreed that the council needs to make a better effort at getting their message out to people across the state - in essence, to have better public relations. The council has been active in the annual Wisconsin Urban Forestry Conference, including presentation of council awards, and needs to continue and expand those efforts. There was discussion about producing an annual report to highlight both council and DNR accomplishments. The report could be used to influence decision makers at all levels, but perhaps especially to keep the focus of our elected officials on the need to maintain a strong, well-funded urban forestry effort in the state.

One of the breakout groups discussed the possibility that the council become the body that promotes ideal "models" for local urban forestry programs throughout the state. Organizational and planning models, technical and budgetary standards and legal models might be examined by the council, with help from interested parties, including staff and members of allied organizations, to derive a comprehensive set of goals and objectives that could be provided to cities, villages and towns across the state.

The internal function of the council was discussed, with members expressing the need for more effective communications between meetings, better quarterly accomplishment summaries and improved orientation for new members.

Members discussed the idea of a resource directory of urban forestry information of all kinds. There are many directories and resource lists already produced by council member organizations, the DNR and others. The council might choose to pull these many materials together for distribution.

Several representatives from the nonprofit sector made a case for the creation and council sponsorship of a tree board forum which would attempt to bring the various non-government organizations across the state together to discuss mutual goals and needs.

These points are just a brief sample of the discussions during the retreat. A task force was established and charged with further fleshing out the priority actions identified at the retreat. Recommendations will be presented at the October 21st meeting of the council.

UF Council Seeks Award Nominations

The Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council is seeking nominations for the 1999 Wisconsin Urban Forestry Awards.

There are three award categories presented by the council. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals for their outstanding contributions to urban forestry in Wisconsin. The Project Partnership Award recognizes outstanding projects that have developed new partnerships in urban forestry. Finally, the Long-Term Partnership Award recognizes the work of groups that have established long-term working partnerships that provide new means of providing service to the urban forest.

Nominations should include:

- Name(s), addresses(s) and phone numbers(s) of the individual/organization being nominated
- Project name, if applicable
- Name(s), addresses(s) and phone numbers(s) of

persons to be contacted regarding the nomination A description of the merits of the individual or the achievements of the project or partnership. Include the goals/objectives of the project and detail the outcome or impact the action had on the community. Why do you believe this nominee is deserving of the award? Feel free to attach any supporting documents (news clippings, photos, letters, etc.) that strengthen the nomination.

Nominations should be sent to Dick Rideout, WDNR Forestry, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707. Nomination deadline is November 23, 1998. This year's awards will be presented at the 1999 Wisconsin Urban Forestry Conference in Madison on January 24-26, 1999.

If you would like more information, please contact your regional urban forestry coordinator (see p.16) or a member of the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council.

Resources:

Urban Forestry on the Web

The worldwide web contains a wealth of information about trees and tree care. Here's a look at what some of the web sites have to offer:

- American Forests www.amfor.org
 - programs, products & services
 - national urban forestry conference update
 - all about trees (why, where & how to plant)
- International Society of Arboriculture www.ag.uiuc.edu/~isa/
 - annual conference update
 - arboriculture discussion groups
 - on-line list of certified arborists
 - · calendar of events
 - publications
- **U of KY-Lexington Tree Web**, The Natural History of Trees -

quercus.ca.uky.edu/treeweb/index.htm

- question & answer forum
- tree news & features of current interest
- National Arbor Day Foundation -

www.arborday.org/

- conferences & workshops
- arbor day history & dates
- youth education
- how to plant & care for trees
- 🌂 U of MN urban forestry bibliography www-stp.lib.umn.edu/for/bib/urban.html
 - urban forestry & arboriculture literature search service - provides abstracts & citations
- 🔻 USDA Forest Service, St. Paul Field Office willow.ncfes.umn.edu/
 - hot topics
 - programs
 - on-line publications & downloadable images
 - many links to related sites
- **TreeLink**TM www.treelink.org/ sponsored by the National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council, USDA Forest Service & TreeUtah; Tree Link promotes itself as "the community forestry resource"
 - news & views
 - · web search
 - bookstore
 - curriculum materials & lesson plans
 - research center
 - take action (how citizens can start an urban forestry program in their community)
 - many links to related sites
- National Arborist Association -

www.NATLARB.com

• information for professionals (tree industry regulations, product catalog, industry calendar...)

- consumer information (tree care tips, frequently asked questions, how to hire an arborist...)
- 🌂 U of IL Urban & Community Forestry Materials Guide - www.ag.uiuc.edu/~forestry/guide/
 - a comprehensive catalog of citations for urban forestry references and resources
- 🔻 UW-Madison Dept. of Botany Virtual Foliage Home Page - www.wisc.edu/botany/virtual.html
 - over 5000 downloadable images of plants
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Program -

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/

- WiDNR urban forestry program information
- resources and publications
- awareness and recognition information 🛪





NR47 Public Hearings Set

The DNR has set three public hearings to solicit comments on proposed changes to NR 47, the administrative rule that governs the Wisconsin urban forestry grant program.

The department is proposing amendments that are primarily administrative in nature, however there is one major policy change. The department is proposing to allow nonprofit organizations to receive grant payments of up to 50% of the grant amount in advance. This will help with cash flow problems experienced by small volunteer groups.

The hearings will be:

- Friday, Dec. 11, 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. in GEF 2, room 611B, 101 South Webster St., Madison, WI
- Tuesday, Dec. 15, 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m., in the Wetland Room, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, Sanctuary Road, Green Bay, WI
- Wednesday, Dec. 16, 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m., in room 185, WCR Eau Claire, 1300 W. Clairmont Street, Eau Claire, WI

Written comments will also be accepted until Monday, December 21, 1998. For copies of the proposed changes or to submit comments, write Dick Rideout at PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

From page 7 -

What Damaged This Tree?

Answer:

A water shortage due to the heat reflected from the pavement below caused scorch on the leaves of this Norway maple. One of the essential elements of a well-managed urban forestry program is some type of systematic watering of newly planted trees. Enlisting the help of local residents is one way to do this important job, if community resources are not sufficient. A detailed discussion of scorch will be found in the Urban Tree Health Matters column of the upcoming fall issue of this newsletter.

Do you have pictures of tree damage others ought to know about? Send them to Kim Sebastian (address on page 16) and we'll print them here!